

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

The regular meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Answering present to the roll call were Township Committee members, Glenn Johnson, Daniel Mulligan, James Taylor, and Mayor David Cook. Ms. Susan Goetz was absent. Also present were Rachel Doobrajh, Esq., Township Attorney; Denise Marabello, Township Administrator/Director of Finance; and Kathleen Cunningham, Municipal Clerk/Assistant Administrator. Mayor Cook led in the salute to the flag, and Ms. Cunningham gave the following Open Public Meetings Act statement:

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, it is hereby announced and shall be entered into the minutes of this meeting that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided:

- (1) Posted on November 29, 2011 on the Bulletin Board of the Municipal Office at 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey and remains posted at that location.
- (2) Communicated to the Cranbury Press, Home News Tribune and Trenton Times on November 29, 2011.
- (3) Was filed on November 29, 2011 at the Cranbury Municipal Office, 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey, posted on the Township's web site and remains on file for public inspection, and
- (4) Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

Regular Township Committee Minutes of November 26, 2012

On motion by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Taylor (with Ms. Goetz being absent and Mr. Johnson abstaining due to absence) and unanimously carried, the Regular Township Committee Minutes of November 26, 2012 were adopted.

Reports and Communications

--Mayor

Mayor Cook provided an update on the debris removal. He stated many areas of the State are requesting AshBritt's services. AshBritt, the Florida contractor hired by the State as well as the Township, has removed all debris from the Township with the exception of the leaning trees, which should be addressed in the upcoming week. Mayor Cook reported leaf removal is behind. He urged residents to be careful to not put branches, pavers or debris in with the leaves.

Mayor Cook reported the Township should have the DEP permits by the end of December. The County can then "bid out" for the work to begin in the Spring. He stated artists' renderings of the project should be available for viewing in the next few weeks.

Reports and Communications

--Mayor

Mayor Cook reported Planning Board and Zoning Board Attorney Valerie Kimson is retiring and stepping down from her position. Ms. Trishka Cecil, Esq. will assume the position of Attorney for the Planning and Zoning Boards.

Mayor Cook reported the purchase of the Reinhardt South property easements will be finalized, preserving the vista from Plainsboro Road to the Cranbury Elementary School.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

Reports and Communications
--Township Committee

Mr. Mulligan reported receiving an e-mail from Mr. Frank Marlowe concerning the Cranbury Business and Professional Association wanting to have a "touch a truck" for children and adults.

Mr. Mulligan stated other Townships conduct similar events where trucks are brought into town and children can see and "touch" various types of vehicles. Mr. Taylor explained different trucks from Public Works, First Aid Squad, Fire Trucks, and police cars are assembled and children can climb on them. Mr. Mulligan asked if the Township Committee was in agreement with the concept, and the Committee agreed. Ms. Marabello asked, from an insurance standpoint, where the trucks would be parked. Mr. Mulligan suggested a formal presentation be made to the Township Committee for further discussion.

Mr. Mulligan stated Ms. Kimson did a great job on the Planning Board and he stated he is sorry to see her go.

Mr. Mulligan commended Mayor Cook on a great job as Mayor.

Mr. Taylor offered his congratulations to Mayor Cook. He reiterated Mayor Cook's comments concerning debris in leaves, and cited a paver in the leaves broke the machine resulting in a \$4,000 repair bill. Ms. Marabello stated the Township has only one (1) leaf machine.

Mr. Taylor reported construction permits issued for November as follows: 15 building permits (\$3,204); 25 electrical (\$3,469 with nine (9) permits issued for Cranbury Housing at no fee); 20 plumbing (\$648, with nine (9) permits issued for Cranbury Housing at no fee); and six (6) fire permits (\$300). Inspections for November were: 61 building, 15 electrical, nine (9) plumbing, and six (6) fire inspections. There were eight (8) residential and eight (8) non-residential certificates of approvals for November.

Reports and Communications
--Subcommittees

There were no reports from Subcommittees.

Agenda Additions/Changes

Ms. Cunningham, Municipal Clerk, stated the Ordinance number on the agenda should read "Cranbury Township Ordinance 11-12-14."

Public Comment

The Mayor opened the floor to public comment. Ms. Connie Bauder, Petty Road, stated she has ruts in front of her property from the tree removal service. She stated the holes will need soil and grass seed to remedy the damage and suggested Public Works be made aware that other residents may also find similar damage when leaves are removed. Ms. Marabello stated storm debris was only removed from rights-of-way and not from private property.

Ordinance
Second Reading

Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-12-13 (sic)

Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-12-14

A motion to enter an Ordinance entitled, "Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-12-14, AN ORDINANCE SUPPLEMENTING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY BY

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

Cranbury Township Ordinance # 11-12-14
(Continued)

CREATING A NEW SECTION 116, ENTITLED "MINIMUM COMMUNITY PROPERTY STANDARDS", was presented for second reading and final adoption. The Ordinance was published in the Cranbury Press, posted on the Township Bulletin Board and copies were available to the public. The Mayor opened the public hearing on the Ordinance.

Public Comment

Ms. Norma Swale, Ryan Road, stated she is concerned with the height of grass allowed to be grown on private property. She stated residents should be able to have a "meadow" on their property, and a meadow does not have to be large. Mr. Mulligan explained grass height can currently be addressed under existing health code standards.

Ms. Lisa Walsh, Symmes Court, stated she felt there are a lot of rules on "how our homes should look." She stated she feels even the title of the Ordinance is restrictive. She stated she feels the Ordinance is needed for public properties, abandoned buildings or foreclosures. However, she stated the Ordinance feels very invasive for private residences. She stated the rules of the Ordinance made it seem like living in a closed community, and she is against living in such a community. She stated two (2) items that disturb her are the person enforcing the Ordinance will be paid by residents, and also neighbors now have a new list of rules to use against each other. Mr. Mulligan stated he also does not want to live in that type of community, and that is not the purpose of the Ordinance. He stated the purpose of the new Ordinance is to "fill the gaps" in the current Ordinance, which is difficult to enforce. Mr. Mulligan explained other Townships have adopted very complex maintenance codes, which is not what Cranbury is looking to do. This Ordinance is simply a mechanism to fill gaps and be able to enforce violations if necessary. Mr. Mulligan stated just like the Brush Ordinance, the Maintenance Ordinance will be enforced by the Public Works Manager during the course of his normal duties. He stated nobody will be driving around looking at properties.

Mr. David Szabo, South Main Street, stated he agreed with Ms. Walsh's comments and stated the Ordinance is too general, citing specifically the language concerning doors and windows, and numbers on buildings being visible. He stated the language for weeds on sidewalks and tree trimming should be more specific, and stated for safety reasons, the trees should be periodically trimmed on the street side by the Township. He stated he feels many items can be enforced by the current Ordinance. Mr. Johnson explained the new Ordinance addresses doors and windows as a means to keep moisture out and as a deterrent for vandalism. Mr. Mulligan further addressed Mr. Szabo's other concerns.

Ms. Kathy Babcock, Stockton Drive, asked why "deterioration" is addressed in the Ordinance. Mr. Mulligan stated he believed the word "deterioration" is not being applied to the state of a building.

Mr. Maurice Lee, Symmes Court, stated it seems the Ordinance is being created to solve a problem, and stated it is not clear the Ordinance is necessary. He stated he has two (2) trees planted by the Township and inquired who would trim those trees. Since they are Township trees, he asked if he needed permission to if he wanted to remove those trees.

Mr. Brian Deverin, Cranbury Neck Road, stated he thought the Ordinance was great, especially for abandoned properties, and stated he was surprised at the public turnout at the meeting. He encouraged the public to attend the budget meetings.

Ms. Hagerty, North Main Street, stated she has an abandoned home in disrepair next door and asked how the Ordinance will be enforced. Mr. Mulligan stated Cranbury is a small Town that does not have the resources to have someone constantly checking properties. Mr. Mulligan

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

Public Comment (Continued)
(Mr. Mulligan cont'd.)

explained the Public Works Manager, may notice problems while performing his day-to-day duties and would then notify the resident.

Mr. Dave Babcock, Stockton Drive, asked who the enforcing officer will be. Mr. Mulligan stated the Public Works Manager will be the enforcing officer. Mr. Babcock recommended limiting the Ordinance to foreclosures and abandoned properties.

Ms. Andrea Kane, Maplewood Drive, stated she agrees with the Ordinance; however she suggested it creates a "slippery slope" with a lot of rules to follow. She suggested limiting the Ordinance to abandoned homes.

Mr. Randy Pisane of Four Seasons reported the motivation for this Ordinance was the corner property on North Main Street and Old Trenton Road (former Chaney parcel). He stated the property has been a mess for years and it should be corrected.

Mr. Tom Walsh, Symmes Court, stated the Ordinance may be "overgoverning" and stated its intent is unclear. He stated there are select properties that motivated the creating of the Ordinance and suggested attacking the issues of foreclosures and abandoned properties. He stated the Ordinance needs to be specific.

Ms. Ellen Yochelson, South Main Street, stated she believes the Ordinance opens the door to Cranbury becoming a "gated community" which can lead to pitting neighbor against neighbor. Mr. Mulligan stated the Ordinance is not limited to foreclosures or abandoned properties because one (1) of the current "problem" properties is not abandoned or in foreclosure, and the Township would still not have a means of addressing that property.

Ms. Jane Elias, 12 Labaw Drive stated the Township needs an Ordinance for enforcement, and stated the Chaney property started this exercise because nothing has been done to remedy the mess. She stated a few simple rules are necessary to maintain the Town.

Mr. Richard Kallan, Wynnewood Drive, reported a big issue is the Four Seasons community has rules; however, other residents do not want rules. He stated this Town has done very well without certain rules. Only 2% or 3% are offenders and other 97% should not have to have rules. Mr. Kallan stated he has been coming to Township Committee for 36 years and he stated he has seen creeping government intervention on every level. He stated he moved to a small town to get away from that government involvement.

Mr. Brian Deverin, Cranbury Neck Road, stated the offenders are not present tonight; however he predicted the list of problem properties will grow in the future and everyone will wish this Ordinance was passed.

Mr. John Jackson, Board of Health Chair, stated he believed the rodent problem at Four Seasons was caused by food sources. Residents were encouraged to remove the food sources, and since doing so, there is no longer a problem with rodents.

Mr. Frank Marlowe, North Main Street, stated the proposed Ordinance has rather weak appeal options. He gave an example of Zoning Board appeal process and stated the Ordinance needs more strength for homeowners.

Ms. Bonnie Larson, Cranbury Neck Road, stated since the 1980's she felt the Township needed a code. She reported she came before the Township Committee then; however those Township Committees did not want to enforce a code. She stated she was concerned property values would decrease.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

Public Comment (Continued)

Ms. Connie Bauder, Petty Road, stated she opposed the Ordinance. She stated it can turn neighbors against neighbors, and stated there are other quality of life issues that are not being addressed, such as barking dogs and offensive odors from commercial properties.

Mr. Tom Connolly, Petty Road, asked Mr. Mulligan to clarify obstacles he and his Committee came across when drafting the Ordinance. Mr. Mulligan explained the committee met with two (2) attorneys. He stated the Ordinance applies to all properties because the Township is able to address all issues. Mr. Mulligan stressed the Ordinance will deal with the minimum standards of properties.

Ms. Eileen Hawes, Maplewood Avenue, stated she understood the Township is trying to address minimum standards; however, she is concerned when five (5) years down the road the Ordinance is "out of this Committee's hands." She recommended the Township "start small" in setting minimum standards on abandoned and foreclosed properties, and if that is not enough, then expand the Ordinance to include other properties.

Mr. John Kulpa, Labaw Road, stated it is not fair to only look at "problem" properties. He stated the Township needs to have a set of maintenance standards.

There being no further comments on the Ordinance, the Mayor closed the public part of the meeting. Mayor Cook thanked everyone for coming out.

Mayor Cook asked for the Township Committee's comments. Mr. Mulligan stated this is a forward-looking minimum and offered to meet with anyone who wishes to further discuss the Ordinance. He stated he will continue to work on the Ordinance if residents voice concerns about it.

Mr. Taylor stated the Code could be strengthened on "abandoned and vacant homes." He stated he felt homeowners' association rules cause neighbors to go against each other. Mr. Taylor stated he was voting "no" on the Ordinance because he feels the Township should focus on abandoned and foreclosed homes.

Mr. Johnson stated it is a huge problem if a resident's property values are being affected because of a neighbor's neglect. He stated minimal standard are needed so properties do not go into disrepair, including commercial properties, referencing the American Cabinetry property. Mr. Johnson stated problems with properties have existed for many years because there was no enforcement code on the books to deal with the problems. He stated something must be on the books to deal with problems, and he stated the Ordinance deals strictly with "minimum standards."

Mayor Cook stated he first wanted to thank Mr. Mulligan and Mr. Johnson for their time and efforts working on the Ordinance and stated there is an appeal process which allows residents an avenue for interpretation. He stated there will not be a schedule to systematically inspect properties; however, a process must be in place to deal with problems.

On motion by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the Ordinance was adopted by a vote:

Ayes: (Johnson	Abstain: (None
(Mulligan	Absent: (Goetz
(Cook	

Nays: (Taylor

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

Resolutions
Consent Agenda

Mayor Cook gave a brief summary of the Resolutions and asked the Township Committee if there were any questions or comments. Mr. Mulligan asked that Resolution # R 12-12-155 be considered separately.

On a motion by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Johnson, the following Consent Agenda Resolutions, excluding Resolution # R 12-12-155, were adopted by vote:

Ayes:	(Johnson	Abstain:	(None
	(Mulligan	Absent:	(Goetz
	(Taylor		
	(Cook		
Nays:	(None		

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-12-154

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township of Cranbury that all bills and claims as audited and found to be correct be paid.

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-12-156

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County Agriculture Development Board has received the following application for the FY 2012 round of Easement Purchase Applications for the Middlesex County Farmland Preservation Program:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Est.</u> <u>Mun.</u> <u>Share</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Reinhardt	23	8	171 Plainsboro Road	Approx. 5,700/acre (\$222,300)	Approx. 39

; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranbury's share of the easement purchase will be 20%; and

WHEREAS, the easement purchase is approximately \$ 5,700/acre, for a total Township of Cranbury share of \$222,300; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranbury wishes to support said application for farmland preservation;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury that it hereby endorses the above application for farmland preservation and hereby agrees to provide financial support for its local share of the costs of the easement purchase.

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-12-157

RESOLUTION FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE
MID JERSEY MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND

Resolution # R 12-12-157 is attached as Addendum A at the end of the Minutes.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-12-158

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH
CITY CONNECTIONS, LLC FOR WEB SITE SERVICE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013

WHEREAS, the Township of Cranbury requires the services of a consultant to host and maintain its website; and

WHEREAS, the Township entered into contract with City Connections, LLC to provide said services during the calendar years 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Township wishes to enter into an agreement with City Connections, LLC to provide these services from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, City Connections, LLC has offered to provide these services to the Township for cost of \$9,009.00; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A: 11-1 et seq., authorizes the award of a services contract without competitive bids when the cost of the contract does not exceed the applicable bid threshold; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that there will be sufficient funds for this contract; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury, in the County of Middlesex, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute an agreement with City Connections, LLC to host and maintain Cranbury Township's website for \$ 9,009.00; and
2. A copy of the Agreement shall be available for public inspection in the Township Clerk's Office during regular business hours.
3. A notice of this Contract shall be advertised within 10 days of the award of said contract.

Resolution

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-12-155

TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AMENDMENT TO THE
TOWNSHIP'S PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL DATED AUGUST 12, 2011

Mr. Taylor reported there is a decrease in the number of volunteers in every organization. He stated the First Aid Squad pays for day-time members. Mr. Taylor stated the Fire Company does not want to pay for members so the Fire Company is supplemented with Township Public Works employees. In the past year, Mr. Taylor reported the Fire Company has had fewer members responding to fire calls, so Township employees need additional training. The current Employee Manual requires Township employees to use their vacation days to obtain training.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-12-155
(Continued)

Mr. Taylor is proposing Township employees receive an additional five (5) days/year to attend mandated training. The Township Committee asked if other employees use their own time for training, and Ms. Marabello explained employees do not use their personal time to obtain training to maintain their licenses.

Mr. Johnson stated he looked at the programs for fire training and the weekend and night classes look geared to volunteers. He stated if these employees are already compensated to perform these duties, why would the Township give additional time off. The Fire Chief and Public Works Manager would need to sign off on the time. Mr. Taylor clarified the Fire Company, not the Township, pays for the training. Mr. Taylor stated the Fire Company wants members with sufficient training to report to fire calls. Mr. Taylor stated if an employee is not trained and is hurt on a call, there could be liability to the Township.

Mr. Mulligan asked if five (5) days of training were necessary or could two (2) or three (3) days be sufficient. Mr. Taylor stated classes are usually two (2) day classes and five (5) days would allow for several classes. Mr. Johnson suggested to Mayor Cook that public comment may be beneficial since the Township Committee was voting on this Resolution. The Township Committee agreed, and Mayor Cook opened the floor to public comment.

Public Comment

Mr. Brian Deverin, Cranbury Neck Road asked for particulars on employees, and stated it is not good to create overtime situations. He stated if the employees are interested in receiving the additional \$1.00/hour to respond to fire calls, then they should get the training on their own time. If those employees are getting additional time off to get training, then they are not doing the work they are being paid to do. Mr. Deverin stated in the private sector, training is obtained on your own time and at your own expense, not at the taxpayers' expense.

Mr. Taylor clarified two (2) points: if there is brush or DPW work to be done, Jerry Thorne, Public Work Manager, will not approve time off for fire training and second, overtime hours are not being created. Mr. Deverin stated the fire training will take away from the regular DPW duties.

Mr. Richard Kallan, Wynnewood Drive, stated private industry provides education for employees on their own time. Mr. Taylor stated he was not sure if the Township could mandate an employee take training on his own time. Ms. Doobrajh, Township Attorney, stated if the employee wants to be a member of the Fire Company and the statutes require training to be a member of the Company, the employee must get the training or forfeit the \$1.00/hour. Mr. Taylor stated for a total of \$2,000/year for each of the two (2) employees, the Fire Company runs the risk of losing two (2) members.

Mayor Cook proposed having a Work Session to further discuss the issue. Mr. Taylor stated he wanted trained individuals responding to fires. Mr. Johnson stated these employees could be members of the Fire Company without the additional training; however, the problem is there are so few members responding during the day that one (1) of these employees would need to have the training to be a leader during a call. Mr. Mulligan asked why other employees do not need to take their own time, and Ms. Marabello stated the Employee Manual currently states the Public Works employees need to use their own time for training. Ms. Marabello stated the Employee Manual needs to be changed to give the days for training. Mr. Taylor stated the number of volunteers was not as low in the past so the training was not an issue.

Mr. Johnson stated the Fire Company needs the volunteers and the flexibility. Ms. Marabello stated there is a cap of five (5) days, and stated if the classes are offered in the evening or on

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

Public Comment (Continued)

Saturdays, the employee will not get a day for the time spent in class. Mayor Cook stated he would go ahead with the Resolution because the alternative would be to obtain paid firefighters at a very high cost. Mr. Mulligan agreed, and stated if it does not work out, the Manual can be changed.

For the record, Mr. Taylor is a member of the Fire Company, and on the advice of Counsel, abstained from voting on this Resolution. On a motion by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mayor Cook, the following Resolution was adopted by vote:

Ayes: (Johnson	Abstain: (Taylor
(Mulligan	Absent: (Goetz
(Cook	

Nays: (None

Cranbury Township Resolution # R 12-12-155

TOWNSHIP OF CRANBURY

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AMENDMENT TO THE
TOWNSHIP'S PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL DATED AUGUST 12, 2011

WHEREAS, the Personnel Subcommittee has recommended the Township Employee Personnel Policies Manual be amended to address training time for employees who are members of a volunteer fire company or rescue squad; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has determined to approve the recommended amendment, provided that it is administered in a manner that will not have a detrimental effect on the Township Department or function; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury in the County of Middlesex that *Section 1 Article 14: Employees Who Are Members of a Volunteer Fire Company or Rescue Squad* be amended as follows:

II. Training

- a. Employees shall be required to meet the Fire Co. training requirements and maintain certifications as needed to be a riding member.
 - i. The Township will allow up to five work days (Monday thru Friday) per year for mandatory training provided this does not conflict with the work schedule of the Public Works Department and the Certified Public Works Manager have given prior approval.

Reports from Township Staff and Professionals

--Administrator's Report

Ms. Marabello stated she had nothing to report this evening.

--Assistant Administrator's Report

Ms. Cunningham asked if the Township Committee if a meeting would be held on Monday, December 17th. She stated the date is currently listed on the Township Meeting Calendar as an "optional" meeting date. She stated either way she would need to notice the newspapers. Ms. Marabello stated there would not be a Bills List for December 17, and stated no new Ordinances can be introduced that evening. The Township Committee decided not to have a meeting on December 17th, and Ms. Cunningham stated she will notify the newspapers.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

Reports from Township Boards and Commissions

There were no reports from Township Boards and Commissions.

Public Comment

The Mayor then opened the meeting to public questions and comment.

Mr. Art Hasselbach, Route 130, gave a history of the Fire Company. He stated residents' insurance is based on the grading of the Fire Company, and stated the Township should do whatever is necessary to attract additional members. Mr. Hasselbach stated the Township needs to have a qualified Fire Company. He stated if the Township has employees willing to respond to calls, there should not be roadblocks put in their way. He stated he understands money is tight; however, it would be much more costly to hire full-time firefighters.

Mr. Brian Deverin stated the Township provides essential services, which he would not change. He stated he does not mind paying high taxes for the excellent school, First Aid Squad and Fire Company. He spoke concerning Public Works Department and stated he saw no chipping was done. He stated a private contractor came to pick up chipping with two (2) public works trucks following the private contractor. Mr. Deverin recommended taking a good hard look at the budget and take a good hard look at the day-to-day operations of the Township.

Mr. Richard Kallan, Wynnewood Drive, stated since the storm he had two (2) leaf pickups and one 91) chipping service. He stated Public Works cut and took away a fallen pine tree within hours of being called. Mr. Kallan stated the Wynnewood development was cleaned up quickly. He stated he did not understand either why Public Works employees were following the private contract. Ms. Marabello stated the Township was required to have Public Works follow the contractor to sign off on the work in order to get FEMA reimbursement.

Ms. Marabello reported Public Works was out chipping the day after the storm and did not stop until AshBritt started. She stated they chipped for days in Shadow Oaks because so many trees came down. Mr. Kallan stated landscapers cleaned up properties and dumped leaves and branches together in piles. AshBritt was able to pick up those piles. Mr. Taylor stated the Public Works trucks cannot pick up mixed piles and stated Public Works spent three (3) hours at one property picking up debris.

Mr. Art Hasselbach, Route 130, stated the Township and Public Works Department were overwhelmed from Super Storm Sandy. He stated the Township has 13 square miles and a lot of trees came down. Mr. Hasselbach commended the Public Works Department did a great job. He stated the Township has only one (1) chipper and one (1) leaf truck.

Mr. Bob Dreyling, Old Cranbury Road, reported he was concerned over the inconsistencies of services rendered to the Village and the rest of the Township. He stated had two (2) Township trees fall on his property and was told he is responsible for the tree removal. However, in the Village, the Township has paid for removal of a few trees. Mayor Cook explained the Township removed the tree on Main Street because it was a safety hazard. The County was not going to remove the tree on Main Street, a County road, so the Township removed the tree for safety.

There being no further comments, the Mayor closed the public part of the meeting.

Mayor's Notes

Mayor Cook thanked on the Township Committee, including Ms. Marabello and Ms. Cunningham, and others for their support over the last year and stated he appreciated the help. He also thanked the public and press for their support, especially during Super Storm Sandy, stating there really is no way to prepare for a storm of that magnitude.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
December 10, 2012

On a motion by Mr. Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Kathleen R. Cunningham, RMC
Municipal Clerk